ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY REPORT

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Report Highlights

# Bloomberg Environment

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### **Highlights**

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#### LEADING THE NEWS

### EPA Says It Won't Ban Pesticide Chlorpyrifos

By Adam Allington

The Environmental Protection Agency said July 18 it won't ban the pesticide chlorpyrifos.

### New York Governor Signs Pace-Setting Climate Legislation

By Keshia Clukey

New York State is embarking on the most aggressive climate action plan in the nation.

### Obama Climate Rule Suit Should End, EPA, Challengers Say

By Abby Smith

It is time for the bitter legal fight over Obama-era power plant carbon controls to come to an end, the EPA and state, utility, and other industry challengers told a federal appeals court.

## For Stevens, Chevron Decision Defined How Supreme Court Changed

By Kimberly Strawbridge Robinson

The late Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens, a Republican appointee who eventually became a liberal voice, famously said that he didn't move left—the court moved right.

#### **ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

#### Biggest U.S. Coal Power Plant Closure Announced by AEP

By Will Wade

American Electric Power Co. is planning to shut one unit at a coal-fired power plant in Indiana in what would be the biggest closure involving the fossil fuel in the U.S.

#### Decades After Enron Debacle, Electricity Deregulation Is Back

By David R. Baker

Almost two decades ago, rolling blackouts and soaring power prices across California killed a nationwide movement to deregulate electricity markets and end the monopoly of traditional utilities.

### Coal Plants Infringe Mercury Removal Patents, Complaint Says

By Blake Brittain

Multiple power plants infringe patents related to removing mercury from coal emissions, a July 17 complaint in the District of Delaware says.

## Oil and Gas Ponzi Scam Promising 227% Returns Draws SEC Suit

By Jennifer Bennett

Two men took \$3.9 million from investors as part of an oil and gas investment fraud scheme, the SEC said July 17.

#### **CAPITOL HILL**

### EPA Clashes With House Panel Over Science Integrity Testimony

By Stephen Lee

The EPA denied allegations from the Democratic chair of a House committee that it blocked its science watchdog from appearing before the panel in a July 17 hearing.

#### Senate Water Supply Bills Need Tweaks, Panel Chairman Says

By Dean Scott

The head of a Senate subcommittee on water said July 18 she'll work to revamp several bills meant to help combat drought conditions in Western states after state water officials and others at a hearing called for more flexibility and other tweaks.

### Rep. Rob Bishop Reconsidering his 2020 Retirement

By Tiffany Stecker

House Natural Resources ranking member Rep. Rob Bishop may decide to stay in Congress after all.

#### CLIMATE

### Creditors Start Asking Coastal Cities For Their Climate Plans

By Abby Smith

Financial credit rating institutions want answers from coastal cities about how they're preparing for climate-change impacts like sea level rise and whether they can pay for their adaptation plans, the mayor of Honolulu said July 17.

## <u>Chevron, BP to Argue Climate Change Appeals Before Same</u> Panel

By Porter Wells

Chevron Corp., BP PLC, and other fossil fuel companies will get a chance to argue before a single panel of Ninth Circuit judges that several climate change suits should be litigated in federal court.

## Top Coal Group Says Path to Zero Emissions Needs Carbon Capture

By Bloomberg News

The World Coal Association has a proposition for governments and banks that are against the fossil fuel: invest in systems to capture and store carbon emissions as a means to tackle climate change.

#### Airlines Clash Over Carbon as Sector Vilified in Climate Debate

By Simon Foy and Kristie Pladson

An uneasy alliance between airlines as they face down criticism over carbon emissions has collapsed into a high-profile dispute involving Europe's biggest network carrier and largest discounter.

#### AIR, WATER, AND WASTE

### More Bad Air Days Despite Drop in Key Air Pollutants, EPA Says

By Amena H. Saiyid

Nationwide declines in air pollutants that lead to smog and haze formation haven't translated into fewer bad air days in some major American cities, the EPA's latest air quality data show.

## Sterigenics Reaches Tentative Deal With Illinois to Reopen Plant (1)

By Stephen Joyce

An Illinois judge will decide July 24 whether to permit Sterigenics U.S. LLP to reopen its Willowbrook, Ill., facility, shut down in February over concerns about its use of ethylene oxide.

### <u>Justice Stevens' Legacy Remains Influential in Workplace.</u> Beyond

By Erin Mulvaney, Jordan S. Rubin, Abby Smith and Sylvia Carignan

The late U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens will continue to make a mark in cases before the high court and in areas relevant to today's political discourse, including workers' rights cases teed up for the high court later this year, evolving environmental policy and greenhouse gas regulation, and the continuing debates over the death penalty.

#### Asarco Loses Appeal of Superfund Claim Against Union Pacific

By Peter Hayes

Asarco LLC can't recover a portion of the \$414 million it spent cleaning up mine tailings in Idaho's Coeur d'Alene Basin from Union Pacific Railroad Co., the Ninth Circuit ruled.

#### CHEMICALS

#### Paintmakers to Pay \$305 Million to Resolve California Lead Suit

By Peter Blumberg and Nick Lichtenberg

Sherwin-Williams, NL Industries and ConAgra Grocery Products agreed with 10 California cities and counties to resolve lead paint-related litigation that is about 20 years old, subject to court approval.

#### INSIGHT

## INSIGHT: LGBTQ Workplace Protections—Lessons from Goldman Sachs Litigation

The Goldman Sachs sexual discrimination case shows how important it is for a company to ensure diversity and anti-sexual harassment programs are not

only implemented, but become part of employee culture. Trevor Hardy, with Ulmer & Berne LLP, offers steps companies can take to ensure buy-in from all employees.

#### FROM THE STATES

#### Nuclear 'Bailout' Clears Ohio Senate in FirstEnergy Unit Win

By Will Wade and Millicent Dent

Ohio's Senate passed a controversial bill late Wednesday that would gut energy-efficiency programs to create financial aid for struggling nuclear reactors instead.

#### Ohio Moves to Ban Bubbling 'Rights of Nature' Movement

By Alex Ebert

The Ohio legislature voted July 17 to ban local laws that give residents power to sue polluters on behalf of natural resources.

#### Ohio Passes \$172 Million Water Conservation, Infrastructure Bill

By Alex Ebert

Ohio programs decreasing phosphorus runoff into Lake Erie, expanding wetland preservation, and installing more septic tanks in poor regions of Appalachia appear likely to get a major cash infusion.

## New York Awards Contracts for 1,700 Megawatts of Offshore Wind

By Will Wade and Millicent Dent

New York has chosen two projects to start a multibillion-dollar offshore wind power boom that — if all goes according to plan — will have turbines in the Atlantic Ocean supplying enough power to light up 6 million homes.

## Two States Go After Washington State Law on Bakken Oil Shipments

By Christopher Brown

North Dakota and Montana are asking federal regulators to overturn a new Washington state law that places onerous restrictions on crude oil from the Bakken formation that's shipped to the Evergreen State.

## PG&E Creditors May End Up Owning 95% of Utility Under Plan (1)

By Scott Deveau and Mark Chediak

A group of creditors seeking control of PG&E Corp. have finally disclosed just how much of the utility they'd like to own after it emerges from bankruptcy:

Almost all of it.

## <u>California Cities Ask Newsom to Remove Hurdles for PG&E</u> Assets

By Romy Varghese and David R. Baker

A new California law, a win for Gov. Gavin Newsom, is intended to help utilities cover wildfire liabilities. But it also is impeding the efforts of cities such as San Francisco that are seeking power independence.

## Florida Targets Buses, Charging Stations for VW Settlement Funds

By Jennifer Kay

Florida wants to spend nearly \$25 million on infrastructure for charging electric vehicles, according to a draft plan for the state's share of a Volkswagen settlement that funds projects to reduce air pollution.

#### AROUND THE GLOBE

### Carbon Emissions Limits to Spark Electric-Car Production in EU

By Janna Brancolini

Production of battery and hybrid-electric vehicles in Europe is on track to multiply more than fivefold by 2025, with 2020 representing a "tipping point" for the market, according to a study released July 18.

#### India Anti-Pollution Effort Faces Obstacles, Ex-Official Says

By Lou Del Bello

India is making a new effort to crack down on polluting industries, but an exgovernment scientist says enforcement will be difficult because many industries are government-owned and perform essential services.

#### <u>German Environment Minister Calls for Higher Flight Tax (1)</u>

By Chelsey Dulaney

Germany should raise taxes on airplane tickets as part of the government's effort to rein in pollution, according to Federal Environment Minister Svenja Schulze.

#### Australian Communities May Vote to House Nuclear Waste Dump

By Deborah Nesbitt

An Australian court has cleared the way for local communities to vote on whether to house the nation's first permanent nuclear waste dump, though an appeal could continue to stall the vote.

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